
**Urban District Council of
Oswaldtwistle**



ANNUAL REPORTS

1964

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

**Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent**

**Urban District Council of
Oswaldtwistle**



ANNUAL REPORTS

1964

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

**Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent**



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29939951>

Health Committee

From April, 1964 to April, 1965.



Councillor A. E. CLARKSON, Chairman

- „ J. ASPINALL, J.P.
- „ W. FRANKLAND
- „ J. W. HILL, J.P., C.C.
- „ J. J. LEE
- „ T. LOMAX
- „ J. METCALF
- „ B. NUTTALL
- „ R. P. OWEN
- „ Mrs. V. E. PITTARD
- „ F. PONTEFRACT, J.P.
- „ J. RUSHTON
- „ L. SCHOLES
- „ J. STELL
- „ E. YATES

Health Department

Medical Officer of Health:

R. C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Public Health Inspector ... B. MAYERS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk to the Health Department R. SULLIVAN
(until 18th January)

Temporary Clerk to the Department Miss V. TAYLOR
(from July 20th)

TOWN HALL,

OSWALDTWISTLE.

August, 1965.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District of Oswaldtwistle.**

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of Oswaldtwistle for the year ending December 31st, 1964.

The various rates in this report are based upon the Registrar General's estimate of the population for the mid-year 1964.

The population continues to show an increase. The several new private housing schemes are still expanding and it is anticipated that the rate of increase will continue.

The adjusted Death Rate (14.4) is slightly lower than last year but remains higher than the rate for the whole country which was 11.3.

It is pleasing to note that the death rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system is again Nil for the fourth year running.

The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births was Nil.

The Birth Rate is again higher being 21.9 per 1,000 as compared with 18.0 per 1,000 in 1963. The rate for England and Wales for 1964 is 18.4 per 1,000. This is the first time for very many years that the birth rate in Oswaldtwistle has exceeded the figure for England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 16.1 per 1,000 live births; this is an increase of 6.1 on the 1963 figure, but it is still less than the national figure.

The Still Birth Rate, 19.7 per 1,000 total births is a decrease of 4.6 per 1,000 on that of 1963.

The incidence of infectious diseases was generally low and for the nineteenth year in succession no cases of diphtheria were notified.

All these figures are most encouraging in an industrial town in the northern half of the country.

Page Five

During the early part of June, the Mass Radiography Unit conducted a survey in the District and only one case of tuberculosis requiring immediate treatment was discovered as against 2 in 1960, and no cases of malignant neoplasm as against 2 in 1960.

It was also particularly encouraging to find that 1,000 more people were X-rayed in 1964 than in 1960.

Sections A and B of the Report deal with Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area and the General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The report on the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal is discussed in Section C together with the report on the Sanitary circumstances in the area. The Housing Report is in Section D, Inspection and Supervision of Food in Section E, and the report on the Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases in Section F.

Appendix 1 gives details of the inspection made under the Factories Act, 1961, and Appendix 2 deals with the Public Cleansing Services.

The matter which causes me most concern in Oswaldtwistle is the continued existence of a substantial amount of property in the central part of the town which calls for removal and replacement. There are many difficulties in present circumstances in dealing with this as the Council knows, but it is not being lost sight of.

I am indebted to the Public Health Inspector and the Clerk of the Health Department for their help during the year. Some difficulty was again experienced on the clerical side of the work due to the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Clerk to the Department which was not filled until the end of July.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Clerk of the Council, the Accountant, Surveyor and other officials for their assistance to me in the work of the Health Department.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	4,885
Population (Census, 1961)	11,910
„ (Estimated middle 1964)	12,490
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Book at the end of 1964)	4,916
Rateable Value	£319,910
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,210

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND CHIEF INDUSTRIES IN THE AREA.

The occupations of the inhabitants of the township remain similar to those of previous years, namely, cotton spinning and weaving and chemical manufacturing. Some of the male population find employment in an adjoining area in textile machinery works.

The main occupation of female labour is in the cotton industry.

A large part of the area is farmed—mainly dairy farming.

No particular occupation has been noted to have any special influence on the public health.

The population according to the Census of—

1801	was	2710
1851	..	7554
1871	„	10282
1891	„	13296
1911	„	15714
1931	„	14221
1951	„	12133
1961	„	11910

Houses Inhabited

1901	...	3067
1921	...	3676
1951	...	4269
1961	...	4612
1962	...	4713
1963	...	4732
1964	...	4916

Houses Uninhabited

1901	...	297
1921	...	40
1951	...	—
1962	...	51
1963	...	25
1964	...	25

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	} Legitimate Illegitimate	Total		Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...	19.9 [†]
		M.	F.		
		236	117		
Still Births	}	13	7	Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still birth) Births	19.7
		249	124		
		5	3		
Deaths	}	182	78	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated res. population	14.6*
		...	...		

	Per 1,000 of Population (Adj.)			Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality Rate	
	Live Birth-rate	Death-rate	Still births Per 1,000, Total	Rate Per 1,000 Total Births	Total Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Neo-natal rate per 1,000 Live Births	
Population, 12,490							
Year—1962	16.4	14.2	10.5	Nil	5.3	Nil	
1963	18.0	14.9	24.3	4.85	10.0	10.0	
1964	21.9	14.4	19.7	Nil	16.1	12.0	
Increase or decrease in 1964 on previous year	+ 3.9	—0.5	+ 4.6	—4.85	+ 6.1	+ 2.0	
England and Wales	18.4	11.3	16.3	0.25	20.0	13.8	

* 1964 Adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor 0.99)=14.4 per 1,000
† 1964 Adjusted Birth-rate (comparability factor 1.10)=21.9 per 1,000

CAUSES OF DEATH		M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0
3	Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0	0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8	Measles	0	0	0
9	Other infective & parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	3	7
11	" " lung,			
	bronchus	6	1	7
12	" " breast	0	5	5
13	" " uterus	0	2	2
14	Other malignant & lymphatic			
	neoplasms	10	5	15
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16	Diabetes	0	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	15	28
18	Coronary disease, angina	25	4	29
19	Hypertension with heart disease...	2	1	3
20	Other heart disease	12	17	29
21	Other circulatory disease	5	6	11
22	Influenza	1	0	1
23	Pneumonia	2	5	7
24	Bronchitis	7	0	7
25	Other diseases, respiratory system	0	0	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum...	0	0	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	0	0
31	Congenital Malformations	0	1	1
32	Other defined & ill-defined diseases	6	7	13
33	Motor Vehicle accident	1	1	2
34	All other Accidents	2	1	3
35	Suicide	3	1	4
36	Homicide and operations of war...	0	0	0
TOTAL ...		104	78	182

Deaths under one year: Legitimate ...	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	1	1
Deaths under 4 weeks: Legitimate ...	2	0	2
Illegitimate	0	1	1
Deaths under 1 week: Legitimate ...	2	0	2
Illegitimate	0	1	1

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Council:

Medical Officer of Health, R. C. Webster, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H.,
D.C.H. Part time Officer. Salary contributed to.

Public Health Inspector, B. Mayers, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Whole time officer.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, with the exception of sputum examination for Tuberculosis, these being examined at the Chest Clinic, Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

Chemical analysis is carried out when required by the Public Analyst, Burnley.

The following specimens were submitted for examination:—

Milk for Methylene Blue and B. Coli	0
„ Phosphatase Test	0
„ Brucella Test	103
„ Turbidity Test	0
Water for bacteria	18
„ Chemical Analysis	0

Ambulance Service.

The ambulance service is operated by the Lancashire County Council from Station No. 2, No. 5 Health Division, at Accrington.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL NURSING.—Carried out by 2 District Nurses under the Lancashire County Council.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The nursing of such cases as measles, pneumonia, and puerperal sepsis, is carried out by the District Nurses.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

	Situation	Accommod't'n	By whom provd	
Chief Centre	Barnfield, Union Road, Oswaldtwistle.	Ample	Owned by the County Council	Meetings & Consultations every Tuesday and Friday afternoons. Ante-natal Clinic, Tuesday a.m.

OTHER CLINICS.

		None		
Day Nurseries		None		
School Clinics	Barnfield, Oswaldtwistle	Eye, Ear and Dent'l & Minor Ailm'ts Clinics	County Council	Polio vaccination and immu- nisations—Monthly by appointment.
Tuberculosis	Chest Clinic, Blackburn Royal Infirm'y		Reg. Hospital Board	
Venereal Diseases	Blackburn Royal Infirm'y	At Out-patients Department	Reg. Hospital Board	Twice a week for males and twice a week for females.
Orthopaedic Clinic	Rishton		County Council	
Chiropody Clinic for the elderly		Barnfield, Oswaldtwistle		5 Sessions weekly, by appointment

Hospitals.

(1) Tuberculosis Provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

(2) Maternity }
(3) Children } None.

(4) Infectious Diseases ... } Cases are sent to Blackburn Hospital when difficulty in isolating at home arises.

(5) Other Hospitals available for the District:—

- Blackburn Royal Infirmary.
- Accrington Victoria Hospital.
- Queen’s Park Hospital, Blackburn.
- Manchester Royal Infirmary.
- Bull Hill, Darwen—Maternity.
- Bramley Meade, Whalley—Maternity.
- Accrington Municipal Maternity Home.

Midwives.

There is one resident midwife, and others residing in adjoining districts cover part of the township. Domiciliary mid-wifery appears to be adequate, although hospital accommodation is limited. This service is under the control of the County Council.

Report
of the
Public Health Inspector

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my second full annual report which covers the year 1964.

The statistics for the various sections of the work are given under their different headings in the report but several points are worthy of further comment.

For more than half the year, very little progress was made in the field of environmental hygiene due to the sickness of the Clerk to the Health Department and later on due to the vacancy caused when he resigned. This meant my attendance in the office to deal with the routine administration of the Department.

In October a report was submitted to the Health Committee drawing their attention to the work which required to be done in various aspects of Public Health and requesting that consideration be given to the appointment of an experienced Clerk and also for assistance on the Technical side of the work. This report was still under consideration at the year's end.

It is pleasing to note that the work carried out by the Calder Water Board at the reservoirs and on the mains has improved both the quality and the quantity of water available to many parts of the town. A problem still remains, however, due to the quality of several of the private supplies particularly in the Cross Edge area of the District. The existing well-water is bacteriologically unsatisfactory.

The supply to the Belthorn area, which is filtered but not chlorinated, also gives rise to some concern. It is understood, however, that consideration is being given to an alternative supply to this area.

The main provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, came into effect during the year. Whilst it was not possible to carry out any inspections, the amount of clerical work involved in registering the premises was considerable.

Mention must be made of the serious floods in July when many properties were flooded and much damage done to roads, factories and dwellings. Thanks were expressed to the men in the Cleansing Department who turned in to work from their holidays to help in the enormous task of clearing up after the water had subsided. Assistance was given to householders to remove damaged furniture, carpets and other household effects and considerable time was spent in emptying cellars, clearing rubble and silt from the roads and in disinfecting houses.

Towards the end of the year some thought was being given to the question of the clearance of unfit houses and it is hoped that a start may be made in 1965 to re-commence both Council house building and the clearance of unfit properties.

Comments on the cleansing services are made in Appendix 2 to the report. All the cleansing services operated quite smoothly throughout the year apart from minor hold-ups due to sickness and adverse weather conditions.

It is interesting to note that the income to the Department from the cleansing services continues to rise, but further improvements can be made. Comparisons are given at the end of the report on salvage receipts and the income from refuse collection and disposal.

Finally, may I express my thanks to the Chairman and the Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support throughout the year and also my colleagues in the various Departments of the Council, and my foreman and outside staff in the cleansing services for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

B. MAYERS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water authority for the District is the Calder Water Board, which came into being on the 1st April, 1963.

The four reservoirs serving the District are:—

Jackhouse Reservoir	58,000,000 galls.
Cocker Cobbs Reservoir	11,200,000 galls.
Residium Reservoir	3,000,000 galls.
Belthorn Reservoir	800,000 galls.

The supply can be augmented if necessary by a Pumping Station situated at Town Bent Pit which can pump up to 25,000 gallons per hour.

Rainfall, 1964.

January	2.43	September	2.89
February	1.40	October	4.24
March	1.62	November	4.87
April	3.72	December	4.01
May	4.59		—
June	2.16	Total	41.17
July	5.87		—
August	3.37		

The highest rainfall was in July, when heavy flooding occurred throughout the district.

For comparison, the total rainfall in 1963 was 43.94 inches.

Water Samples.

The samples taken from the mains in the town were all satisfactory, apart from 2 which were probably caused by local contamination. Two samples from the Belthorn area were also unsatisfactory.

Concern must be expressed, however, with the quality of some of the private supplies. Six out of nine samples taken from wells were unsatisfactory. Quite a number of householders still have to carry water from wells as far as 100 yards away from their dwellings. This water then has to be boiled before being used for cooking and drinking.

In addition numerous farms producing “T.T., farm bottled milk” have to rely on these poor supplies.

At the end of the year, enquiries were being made to see whether it would be possible to provide a mains supply to the Cross Edge area of the District where the supply to approximately 37 dwellings is unsatisfactory.

In addition, a group of farmers in the Haslingden Old Road area have formed a Committee and with the assistance of the Calder Water Board, a scheme to supply their farms with mains water is nearing fruition. Grants have been obtained from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Lancashire County Council and it is hoped that grants may also be available for a similar scheme at Cross Edge.

Sampling.

Public Supply — Bacteriological.

	No. taken	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatis.
By L.A.	9	9	0
By Water Board	64	60	4

Public Supply — Chemical

	No. taken	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatis.
By L.A.	0	0	0
By Water Board	24	24	0

Private Supplies — Bacteriological

	No. taken	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatis.
By L.A.	9	3	6
No. of dwelling-houses supplied from public water			
mains direct to houses			4,622
No. of inhabitants in these houses			12,100

There are no houses supplied from the public water mains by means of standpipes.

There are approximately 135 houses on private water supplies, the number of inhabitants of these houses being 250.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During the year the new private housing development continued and 183 dwellings were connected to the Council's sewerage system.

The sewerage is treated at the Council's Aspen Sewage Works which is of modern design, and the treatment is biological.

The village of Belthorn has a separate sewage disposal works on the same principle, and the Knuzden and Peel Fold sewage, which was also extended during the year, is dealt with by arrangement with the Blackburn County Borough.

The districts of Cross Edge and Duckworth Hall are without a proper sewerage system.

Assistance is given to householders and farmers in the rural areas in emptying their septic tanks. Quite a number of these are now in operation in place of pail closets.

Rivers and Streams.

There are two main streams flowing through the district, the Tinker and Smithy Brooks. In the latter case a chemical works discharge their effluent thereto, and although this effluent is generally known as "neutral", there is no escaping the fact that on many occasions there is a distinct chemical odour given off the bed of the stream.

Shops Act, 1950.

Shops were inspected under the above Act. There were no contraventions as regards ventilation and temperature or sanitary accommodation.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Three licences for single caravans, and one licence for a maximum of 20 caravans at one site, were issued. The latter site is used by travelling salesmen who station their vans thereon for varying periods. Sanitary conditions are reasonable at all the sites.

Trouble was again experienced due to the parking of caravans

on unlicensed ground. There would appear to be a need for the provision of a small site to serve the area where caravans could stay for short periods. The larger of the licensed sites which is privately owned, is full for most of the year and is no doubt serving a useful purpose. No complaints were received during the year regarding this site but numerous caravans had to be turned away due to the limited space.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

Ten observations were made during the year.

In general the co-operation of industrialists has been satisfactory, and the problem of smoke emission from industrial premises within the district is no longer a major one.

Occasional trouble arises from a large chemical manufacturing plant but the co-operation between this firm, the Alkali Works Inspector, and the Council is good and at such times every effort is made to keep the nuisance to a minimum.

Smoke Control Areas.

Due to the shortage of staff, the question of smoke control areas was not discussed until late in the year when the matter was again deferred.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Many of the provisions of the above Act came into force during the year. It is obvious that much needs to be done in this sphere of Public Health work to improve the conditions of workers in Offices and Shops.

The first major problem was the registering of the premises to which this Act applies and it was found that many had not registered by the date given for this purpose. Some considerable time was spent in checking on these premises and ensuring that the necessary particulars were entered in the register.

It is estimated that approximately 50% of premises which should be registered had not done so by the end of the year.

Details of the premises registered are given below.

Number of Registered Premises at the end of year.

		Wholesale Shops & Warehouses		Catering Establishm'ts & Canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
Offices	Retail Shops				
15	23	1		8	Nil

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools within the district.

Schools.

These are adequately dealt with by the School Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council.

Routine inspection of school children is carried out by the School Medical Officer of Health, and when necessary by the District Medical Officer of Health. The School M.O.H. and District M.O.H. co-operate with regard to school closure in the prevention of the spread of infectious disease. Contacts of infectious disease are excluded from school.

Sanitary Inspections during 1964:

No. of premises visited	1,321
Defects or nuisances discovered	493
Defects or nuisances abated ...	493
No. of notices served:—	
(a) Informal	480
(b) Statutory	0

Classification of Visits:

Housing—Public Health Act (Primary Inspections)...	781
or Housing Acts	
" (Re-inspections)	66
Drainage	125
Factories	9
Dairies	12
Food preparation premises	56
Bakehouses	12
Tips	71
Miscellaneous	202
Shops	223
Rodent Control	2
Smoke Abatement	10
Public Cleansing visits	341
Milk Sampling	103
Water Sampling	18
Conversions of W.W.C.'s to W.C.'s	46

Conversion of Pails to W.C.'s	5
Petroleum Acts	2

Nuisances and Defects Discovered and Abated.

	Discovered	Abated
Defective roofs	6	4
Eavesgutters	0	1
Defective outer walls	1	0
„ ceiling plaster	5	1
„ wall plaster	5	6
„ refuse bins	94	102
Choked closet drains	162	161
Choked yard drains	136	137
Defective chimney flues	2	1
„ W.C.'s	8	7
„ Sinks	1	2
„ W.W.C.'s	8	8
„ Window frames	1	0
Defective yard paving	2	1
„ fireplaces	1	2
„ doors	2	1
„ yard drains	2	0
„ rainwater pipes	3	2
Dampness	3	6
Dirty premises	4	2
Accumulations	14	6
Defective Pail Closets	1	1

Closet Accommodation.

The waste water closet conversion scheme has continued throughout the year but progress is slow. A great many waste water closets are still in regular use and these obsolete and insanitary fittings should be cleared as quickly as possible. The majority of the drains reported choked are more often than not associated with these closets and a considerable amount of time and money is spent in clearing them.

It is anticipated that in the coming financial year, an increase will be made in the grant given to owners when having the waste water closets converted. In this way it is possible that a speed-up in the essential replacement will result.

Similarly, wherever possible, owners are being encouraged to replace pail closets with septic tanks but many of these insanitary fittings are still in use in the rural areas of the Authority. It is estimated that almost £500 a year is spent in emptying pails by means of the gully emptier which is fitted with a special tank for this purpose.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1964.

No. of pail closets	219
No. of moveable ashbins for refuse	5630
No. of fresh water closets	3844
No. of waste water closets	1430

Conversions.

	During the year 1964
No. of pail closets to fresh water closets	5
No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets	46

Rodent Control—Prevention of damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatments are carried out in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture, and below are indicated the number of treatments carried out during the year, involving 562 visits.

During the year, fluoracetamide was again used for the treatment of the sewers.

I am satisfied that this form of direct poisoning has proved very effective in the treatment of rats in sewers.

As well as the sewer treatment, all surface complaints are dealt with by the Rodent Operator.

Infestation Treatments.

	Private Premises	Business Premises
Rats		
Number of Treatments	89	38
Mice		
Number of Treatments	27	5

Sewer Treatments

Number of manholes on system	553
Number of manholes treated	320

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District.

The necessity for securing the repair or demolition of unfit houses and improving the general standard of housing accommodation throughout the district.

Complete the conversion of waste water closets and pail closets wherever practicable.

Abatement of atmospheric pollution particularly from domestic premises.

SECTION D — HOUSING.

During the year the demolition of the Duncan Square Clearance area was completed.

These 15 houses are the only ones to have been dealt with by Clearance Area procedure for a good number of years and it is felt that in the near future, a closer look must be taken at housing conditions generally throughout the area with a view to replacement of the worn-out and sub-standard properties.

The figure of '30' estimated unfit houses which are not capable of repair at reasonable cost is now obviously on the low side and it is hoped that after survey a more realistic figure will be quoted in future.

Together with clearance work, greater effort should be made to improve properties which lack modern amenities and also to secure a better standard of maintenance, particularly on the rented dwellings.

Housing Statistics for the year 1964.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

	Houses	Flats
(1) By Local Authorities	0 ...	0
(2) By other Local Authorities...	0 ...	0
(3) By other persons	184 ...	0

I—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:

1. (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	37
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	37
2. Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) No. found during the year	0
(b) No. (or estimated number) at end of year	30
3. No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	25

II—Clearance Areas.

1.	No. of dwelling-houses demolished during the year:	
(a)	Unfit houses	15
(b)	Other houses	0
2.	No. of persons displaced	19

III—Houses not included in Clearance Areas.

1. Houses demolished or closed during year:		No. of:-	
		Houses	Persons Displaced
(a)	Housing Act, 1957:		
(i)	Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Sec. 17(i))	0	0
(ii)	Unfit houses closed under Sec. 16 (4), 17(1) & 35(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	1	1
(iii)	Unfit houses closed under Sec. 17(3) and 26 of the Housing Act, 1957	0	0
(iv)	Parts of Buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ...	0	0
2. Repairs during the year:		No. of houses	
(a)	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts		28
(b)	Public Health Acts — action after service of formal notice — Houses in which defects were remedied:—		
(i)	By Owners		0
(ii)	By Local Authority in default of owners...		0
(c)	Housing Act, 1957 — action after service of formal notice (Sections 9 and 16): Houses made fit:—		
(i)	By Owners		0
(ii)	By Local Authority in default of owners...		0

IV—Unfit houses in temporary use—Housing Act, 1957:

1. No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation under Sect. 48 and Sect. 17(a)	0
2. No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 34 or 53)	0

Rent Act, 1957.

No certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year and no certificates were cancelled.

Standard Grants:—

Applications received	98
Applications approved	95
Works completed	95

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The milk produced or brought into the district is on the whole of good quality.

Regular sampling is carried out by the Lancashire County Sanitary Officers who also visit the large pasteurising plant in the district.

Brucellosis.

A start was made during the year to trace individual animals from herds where brucellosis had been found.

Some time was spent on this work and in general, the co-operation of the farmers was good. Many farmers who bottle their own milk are now realising how serious this organism can be and there appeared to be a genuine attempt on the part of several of them to eradicate the carriers from their herds.

103 individual cow samples were taken and, as a result, 9 cows were eventually sent for slaughter.

There is the obvious danger that these positive carriers can be sold from herd to herd and it would appear that only by getting the goodwill and co-operation of the farmers can this be stopped.

It is hoped to continue the process of eradication but, at the moment, this is an uphill struggle.

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations.

There are 70 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream.

Two of these premises are also registered for the manufacture of ice-cream.

Sixteen routine inspections were made in connection with these registered premises.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The following table shows the number of premises on the register at the end of the year:—

Preparation rooms, butchers' shops, etc. ...	12
Bakehouses	22
Ice-Cream premises	70

**Number of food premises, by type of business, in district at end
of year.**

Greengrocers and fruiterers (inc. wet fish, game, etc.)	16
General grocers and provision dealers	64
Fishmongers (inc. poultry, game, etc.)	1
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and pre- served meat, etc.)	16
Bakers and/or confectioners	22
Fried fish shops	9
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	29
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars, etc.	64
Others	3

Food Hygiene.

It was not possible to carry out any major programme of inspection on food premises but this is one aspect of Public Health work where much remains to be done. Most of the premises visited were, in one way or another, unsatisfactory but perhaps still the greatest needs is for the education of food handlers in the proper techniques of storing, handling and preparation of food.

Tinned Foods Condemned:—

Puddings	267 tins
Fruit	201 tins
Vegetables	261 tins
Meats	23 tins
Soups	259 tins
Fish	24 tins

Other Foods Condemned:—

Meat	215 lbs.
Margarine	36 lbs.
Gherkins	1 Barrel (3 cwts.)

The meat was condemned following a breakdown in a refrigerator at a school kitchen. Most of the tinned foods were condemned following the flooding of a shop during the July floods. The tins were surrendered as unsaleable due to their condition.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

No cases were notified in 1964.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified for the nineteenth year in succession. Immunisation of children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council at their Barnfield House Clinic.

Enteric (including Paratyphoid) Fever.

No cases were notified in 1964.

Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken-pox, etc.

There were 20 cases of Measles notified during the year.

Dysentery.

Two cases were notified.

Small-pox.

No cases of small-pox occurred during the year, and no action was necessary under the Small-pox Prevention Regulations.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case was notified.

Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations.

No cases of acute primary or acute influenzal pneumonia were notified during the year.

SECTION F.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

Disease	Total Under										Total age unkn'n Deaths
	cases notified	1 yr.	1-3 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 & over	
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Res.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
" Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	20	0	9	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Acute Pneumonia (PPrimary & Influenzal)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	23	0	9	10	0	0	2	2	0	0	0

Prevention of Blindness.

No action necessary during the year.

Cancer.

There were 36 deaths from Cancer during the year.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1964.

Age periods years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25-35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35-45	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45-55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55-65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 upwds.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1		0		0		0	

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

No. of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the notification Register on 31st December, 1964:—

Total Cases	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
21	17	3	20	1	0	1

APPENDIX I.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Reg.	Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6	28	1	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	77	7	1
(iii) Other Premises	5	1	0
Total ...	110	9	1

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Sanitary Convenieces:—

Particulars	Found	Remedied
(a) Insufficient	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1
(c) Not separate for sexes...	0	0
(d) Other offences	0	0
Total ...	1	1

4. Outwork. Sections 133 and 134.

No. of Outworkers 0

APPENDIX II.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION & STREET CLEANSING

1st April, 1964 to 31st March, 1965.

Public Cleansing.

The Public Health Department is responsible for the collection and disposal of household refuse and also collects and disposes of certain trade refuse.

A weekly service is provided for the emptying of all dustbins and, in addition, the weekly emptying of pail closets from areas of the District where sewers are not available.

Street scavenging, gully emptying and the cleansing and maintenance, of the four public conveniences within the District are also included in the Public Cleansing Services.

The vehicles in use are as follows:—

One “fore and aft” refuse collection vehicle.

Two side-loading refuse collection vehicles.

One gully/cesspool emptier.

One mechanical street-sweeper.

One heavy tractor for use on the tip.

Collection of Refuse.

During the year 51 weekly collections of household refuse were made. One week was missed at the annual holiday period.

Following bank holiday breaks, i.e. Christmas, Easter, etc., a weekly collection was maintained and a minimum amount of overtime was worked to achieve this. It is essential to maintain, at least, a weekly collection if at all possible.

One aspect of the services provided requires further investigation. It would appear that some quantity of trade refuse is being handled weekly without charge. A charge should be made for extra collections from business premises. A closer watch is also being kept on the tipping fees received and the income from both these services has increased considerably over the past two years or so. Some comparisons are given at the end of this report.

Disposal of Refuse.

A Massey-Ferguson 65R tractor was purchased late in the year to work on the tip. The type and quantity of refuse being disposed of is such that a mechanical handler is essential to keep the tip under control.

In addition, the machine is now digging out old tipping surfaces to use as blacking out materials. The cost of buying and carrying a sufficient quantity of ash for this purpose was increasing rapidly and apart from providing covering materials, the machine is making more space available on the tip.

Income comparisons (excluding salvage).

Refuse Collection.

1961/62	1962/63	1963/64	1964/65
£58	£63	£119	£232

Refuse Disposal.

£84	£52	£212	£415
-----	-----	------	------

Salvage.

Greater advantage is being made of the demand for scrap metal, rags and waste paper. The income from this source has increased and has now passed the £1,000 mark for the first time.

Salvage Comparisons.

		1962/63	1963/64	1964/65
Paper:	Wt.	58 tons	96 tons	131 tons
	Value	£340	£618	£848
Metal:	Wt.	1½ tons	5½ tons	8 tons
	Value	£35	£95	£164
Rags:	Wt.	1½ tons	1½ tons	4½ tons
	Value	£24	£24	£67
Tins:	Wt.	—	5 tons	11 tons
	Value:	—	£8	£17
TOTAL VALUE:		£399	£745	£1,096

